

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. Rejection of claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 9, 14, and 15 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b):

Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 9, 14, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Archer (US 5,473,229).

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Response:

Claims 1, 6, 9, and 14 have been amended to overcome these rejections.

Independent claim 1 now contains the limitations previously found in claims 4 and 5. Claim 5 was indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As such, claim 1 should now be in allowable form.

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Independent claim 6 has been amended to add the steps of “operating the circuit in a normal mode when it is determined that the output port is electrically connected to the output cable” and “operating the circuit in a power-saving mode when it is determined that the output port is not electrically connected to the output cable”. This amendment is fully supported in the specification, such as in paragraphs [0021] and [0023], and no new matter is added. When the output port is not electrically connected to the output cable, it is not necessary to run the circuit in normal mode, so the circuit is instead run in a power-saving mode.

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In contrast, Archer teaches in column 9, line 64 to column 10, line 35 that an integrity check is performed on the cabling between an interface and an electronically commutated motor to make sure each of the wires of the cable provides a closed circuit connection there between. However, Archer does not teach operating in a power-saving mode when it is determined that the cable is not connected, and operating in normal mode when it is detected that

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the cable is connected. For this reason, the applicant submits that the currently amended claim 6 is patentable over Archer.

5 Dependent claim 9 has been amended to state “providing a low power detecting signal to the output port when the circuit is operating in the power-saving mode”. This amendment is fully supported in the specification, such as in paragraph [0023], and no new matter is added.

10 As Archer does not teach operating in a power-saving mode when it is determined that the cable is not connected, Archer also does not teach “providing a low power detecting signal to the output port when the circuit is operating in the power-saving mode”. Because of this, claim 9 is also patentable over Archer.

15 Independent claim 14, similar to claim 6, has been amended to state that the decision module comprises “a control circuit for operating the signal circuit in a normal mode when it is determined that the output port is electrically connected to the output cable, and for operating the signal circuit in a power-saving mode
20 when it is determined that the output port is not electrically connected to the output cable.” This amendment is fully supported in paragraph [0021] and in Figures 3 and 4, and no new matter is added.

25 As explained above, Archer does not teach operating in a power-saving mode when it is determined that the cable is not connected, and operating in normal mode when it is detected that the cable is connected. Therefore, the applicant submits that the currently amended claim 14 is patentable over Archer.

30 Furthermore, claims 2, 7, 9, and 15 are dependent on claims 1, 6, and 14,

and should be allowed if their respective base claims are allowed.

Reconsideration of claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 9, 14, and 15 is therefore respectfully requested.

5 2. Rejection of claims 3, 4, 8, 10, 11, 13, 16, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a):

Claims 3, 4, 8, 10, 11, 13, 16, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Archer (US 5,473,229).

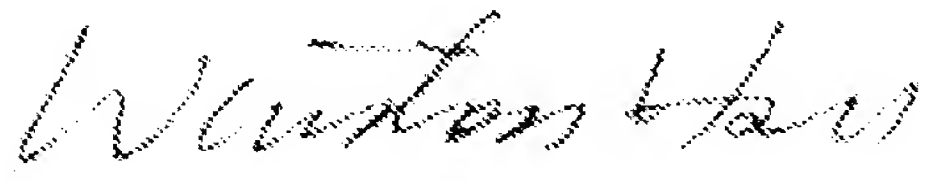
Response:

10 Claims 3, 8, 10, 11, 13, 16, and 18 are dependent on claims 1, 6, and 14, and should be allowed if their respective base claims are allowed. Reconsideration of claims 3, 8, 10, 11, 13, 16, and 18 is therefore respectfully requested.

15 In view of the claim amendments and the above arguments in favor of patentability, the applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Sincerely yours,

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Date: _____

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